

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A communication terminal apparatus comprising:
a display unit;
a communication unit;

5 a connection control unit for controlling a connection state between the communication unit and an information center to make connection to the information center through the communication unit to acquire information from the information center; and

10 a prediction unit for predicting the necessity for connection between the communication unit and the information center,

wherein the connection control unit starts connection to the information center based on a prediction result of the
15 prediction unit.

2. A communication terminal apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the prediction unit monitors movement of a mobile unit and predicts the necessity for connection between the communication unit and the information center.

20 3. A communication terminal apparatus as defined in claim 1, wherein the prediction unit detects a driving state of a mobile unit to monitor whether or not there is a possibility that the mobile unit deviates from a driving scheduled route and predicts the necessity for connection between the
25 communication unit and the information center.

4. A communication terminal apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein detection of a driving state of a mobile unit by the prediction unit is comparison of a driving position and a driving direction of the mobile unit with a driving scheduled route.

5. A communication terminal apparatus as defined in claim 3, wherein detection of a driving state of a mobile unit by the prediction unit is comparison of traffic information with a driving scheduled route.

10 6. A connection control method in a communication terminal apparatus which includes a display unit, a communication unit and a connection control unit for controlling a connection state between the communication unit and an information center to make connection to the information center through the communication unit to acquire information from the information center, the method comprising:

predicting the necessity for connection between the communication unit and the information center; and

20 starting connection to the information center based on a prediction result of the prediction unit.

7. A computer program for causing a computer to function as a communication terminal apparatus which includes a display unit, a communication unit, a connection control unit for controlling a connection state between the communication unit and an information center to make connection to the

information center through the communication unit to acquire information from the information center, a prediction unit for predicting the necessity for connection between the communication unit and the information center, wherein the
5 connection control unit starts connection to the information center based on a prediction result of the prediction unit.